

## Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 SS-20 PRS-01 OPR-02 SY-10

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 A-01 L-03 IO-14 EB-11

SCA-01 OC-06 CCO-00 SSO-00 USSS-00 AID-20 JUSE-00

OMB-01 DRC-01 FBIE-00 TRSE-00 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25

NSC-10 /194 W

----- 005481

P 301113Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1577

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY

S E C R E T MOGADISCIO 0134

C O R R E C T E D COPY (BEIRUT ADDED AS INFO ADDEE)

ADDIS ABABA FOR RSO

BEIRUT FOR RSS AND RMO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PINS

SUBJ: GSDR REPORT OF TERRORIST THREAT AGAINST US PERSONNEL

1. ACTING FONMIN ABDURAHMAN CALLED ME IN JANUARY 30 PURSUANT TO GSDR DECISION THAT HE SHOULD GIVE ME FOLLOWING INFORMATION ON "TOP SECRET" BASIS: SOMALIS HAD RECEIVED REPORT FROM PLO SOURCE THEY CONSIDER RELIABLE (PLACE INFORMATION ACQUIRED NOT SPECIFIED, THOUGH IMPLICATION WAS THAT GSDR GOT IT FROM PLO IN MOGADISCIO) TO EFFECT THAT UNIDENTIFIED ARAB TERRORISTS, ACTING WITHOUT APPROVAL OR CONSENT OF PLO, PLAN TO KIDNAP AMERICAN DIPLOMAT IN MOGADISCIO BETWEEN NOW AND FEBRUARY 17. THEREFORE, GSDR FELT THEY SHOULD PROVIDE SECURITY GUARD FOR ALL AMERICAN

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DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL, BUT WANTED OUR CONSENT TO THIS STEP.

ACCORDING TO ABDURAHMAN, TERRORIST PLAN IS REPORTEDLY THAT, AFTER KIDNAPPING TAKES PLACE, USG WOULD BE GIVEN TWO HOURS TO AGREE TO FREE SIRHAN SIRHAN. DEADLINE COULD BE EXTENDED TWO MORE HOURS, BUT IF NO FAVORABLE RESPONSE RECEIVED WITHIN THE FOUR-HOUR PERIOD THE DIPLOMAT WOULD BE KILLED. TERRORISTS WOULD BE COMING TO SOMALIA FROM EUROPE, PROBABLY PASSING THROUGH SOME ARAB COUNTRY ON WAY TO MOGADISCIO.

2. ABDURAHMAN NOTED THAT GSDR HAD TOLD PLO WHEN LATTER ESTABLISHED OFFICE IN MOGADISCIO THAT GSDR WOULD NOT RPT NOT TOLERATE ANY TERRORIST INCIDENT ON SOMALI TERRITORY AND WOULD KILL ANYONE WHO CARRIED OUT SUCH AN INCIDENT. IT WAS THIS STRONG STAND, ABDURAHMAN SAID, WHICH HE FELT LED PLO TO PASS ABOVE REPORT ON TO GSDR. ABDURAHMAN NOTED THAT ALL PLO PERSONNEL IN MOGADISCIO ARE CAREFULLY WATCHED AND HE CONFIDENT THEY ARE NOT RPT NOT INVOLVED. GSDR CONVINCED THAT TERRORISTS ARE NOT RPT NOT YET HERE. ALL AIRPORTS AND "ENTIRE COASTLINE" BEING WATCHED TO PREVENT TERRORISTS FROM ARRIVING SURREPTITIOUSLY. HOWEVER, PROBLEM IS COMPLICATED; TERRORISTS COULD COME UNDER VARIETY OF COVERS, SUCH AS MEMBER OF OFFICIAL ARAB DELEGATION.

3. ABDURAHMAN THOUGHT IT "97 PERCENT SURE" THAT ATTEMPT WOULD NOT RPT NOT BE MADE. HOWEVER, GSDR FELT THAT ALL US DIPLOMATS SHOULD BE ESCORTED FOR OUR PROTECTION. MOST LIKELY TARGET WOULD BE SENIOR OFFICIAL, SUCH AS "AMBASSADOR OR COUNSELOR" BUT "EVEN ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIALS" SHOULD BE ESCORTED. GSDR DID NOT RPT NOT HOWEVER WISH TO DO THIS WITHOUT OUR AGREEMENT; SOMALIS WILL IN ANY CASE TAKE OTHER SECURITY MEASURES.

4. I EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR SOMALI PROTECTION OF US PERSONNEL IN PAST AND AT PRESENT AND SAID WE OF COURSE WANTED TO COOPERATE WITH THEM. SAID WE HAVE IN PAST DISCUSSED THESE MATTERS WITH COL. JAMA OF THE POLICE AND IT MIGHT BE WELL FOR US TO BE IN TOUCH WITH HIM AT THIS TIME. ABDURAHMAN AGREED. I SAID I WOULD BE BACK IN TOUCH WITH ABDURAHMAN VERY SHORTLY. ABDURAHMAN SAID THIS WAS WISE AS ATTEMPT COULD "EVEN BE MADE TODAY".

5. THERE ARE SEVERAL ASPECTS OF THIS REPORT WHICH PUZZLE US. SOMALI PROTECTIVE MEASURES FOR AMBASSADOR AND OTHER US DIPLOMATS  
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HAVE BEEN MUCH RELAXED  
IN RECENT WEEKS (GUARDS PULLED OFF  
RESIDENCE, ETC.). WE HAVE NO SIGN THAT ANY OF THESE HAVE BEEN  
REINSTITUTED AND WE WONDER WHY GSDR PROPOSING TO MOVE DIRECTLY  
TO EXTREME MEASURE OF FOLLOWING ALL US DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL.  
TERRORISTS COULD HARDLY EXPECT ANY REPLY TO THEIR DEMANDS  
WITHIN TWO HOURS OR EVEN FOUR. ABDURAHMAN'S ASSURANCES THAT  
TERRORISTS NOT RPT NOT YET IN MOGADISCIO CONTRAST WITH HIS VIEW

THAT ATTEMPT "COULD BE MADE TODAY" AND HIS ASSESSMENT OF RELIABILITY OF REPORT ILL ACCORDS WITH HIS EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE ATTEMPT WILL NOT BE MADE. WE HAVE HAD NOTHING FROM POLICE, AND COL. JAMA, WITH WHOM WE TALKED ON THE TELEPHONE TO SET UP APPOINTMENT (SCHEDULED FOR TOMORROW MORNING), INDICATED NO AWARENESS OF ABDURAHMAN'S CONVERSATION WITH ME OR ANY SPECIAL CONCERN ABOUT SAFETY OF AMERICANS.

6. I THEREFORE AM PLANNING TO TAKE FOLLOWING LINE WITH ABDURAHMAN IN MEETING REQUESTED FOR LATER TODAY. THERE ARE NUMBER OF MEASURES SHORT OF FAIRL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PARAMILITARY FORCES, KIDNAPPING, THREATS, DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL, SECURITY GUARDS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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